(d) if so, steps Government propose to take to implement the same; and

(e) whether Railways has already submitted the plan on dedicated track for freight traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Railways has initiated preparation of a blueprint for developing dedicated freight corridors on the Golden Quadrilateral and its diagonals.

Garbage Cleaning

4760. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that unsatisfactory performance of Rail track Vacuum Suction Cleaning Machine imported at a cost of Rs. 9.29 crore resulted in non-realisation of expected benefits, consequently, the garbage cleaning work is done manually through contractual agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the policy of Government regarding garbage cleaning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A Rail Track Vacuum Suction Cleaning Machine was procured at a cost of Rs. 9.29 crore and commissioned on Central Railway in February 02, for the cleaning of railway track in sub-urban area in Mumbai. Since its commissioning, the machine has been working on sub-urban area of Central Railway and the performance of machine has been quite satisfactory. The same has also been appreciated by public and media. However, there is a limit up to which the machine is able to clean on either side of the track. Further, since the requirement of cleanliness on the suburban section of Mumbai area is much higher than the capacity of this machine, the cleaning work is also being supplemented further by manual cleaning through contractual agencies.

(c) The garbage cleaning of track is done through machine or manual means with a view to improve the general maintenance environment and to ensure safety.